

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (canceled)

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (amended) A method of measurement of the rate of type II collagen resorption comprising measuring in a sample the amount of a population of collagen type II fragments by a sandwich assay comprising forming antibody-fragment-antibody complexes involving a first antibody reactive with first occurrence in said fragments of an epitope located in or comprised by part of the collagen type II amino acid sequence and a second antibody specifically reactive with a second occurrence of said epitope in said fragments by reacting each antibody with said fragments, and measuring the amount of said complexes formed and correlating said measured amount with the rate of type II collagen resorption. ~~A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said part of the collagen type II amino acid sequence is EKGDP.~~

5. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the measured amount of said complexes is compared with calibration values correlating said amount to a clinical condition.

6. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said clinical condition is cartilage resorption, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis or other inflammatory joint disease.

7. (new) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the same antibody is used as said first antibody and as said second antibody.